

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
HOUSTON DIVISION**

WILLIE TYRONE TROTTIE, §
 Petitioner, §
 §
 v. § CIVIL CASE NO. H-09-0435
 §
 NATHANIEL QUARTERMAN, Director, §
 Texas Department of Criminal Justice, §
 Correctional Institutions Division, §
 Respondent. §

ORDER


Petitioner Willie Tyrone Trottie is a death row inmate, currently in the custody of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. He filed a *pro se* motion in which he attempts to enter into the record his account of the crime for which he was convicted. His counsel subsequently filed a motion to temporarily seal and restrain any use of or reference to Trottie's *pro se* motion.

Federal courts have recognized a presumption in favor of public access to judicial documents. *See, e.g., Nixon v. Warner Communications, Inc.*, 435 U.S. 589, 597 (1978). While counsel's concern that Trottie's *pro se* statement may damage his case is understandable, the motion contains no information protected by any privilege, nor does it contain information of a private or embarrassing nature produced under compulsion. There is no basis for sealing Trottie's *pro se* motion [Doc. # 26].

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that Petitioner's Emergency Motion For Order Temporarily Sealing, and Restraining Any Use Of, Or Reference To, *Pro Se* Motion [Doc. # 27] is **DENIED**.

SIGNED at Houston, Texas, on this 29th day of June, 2010.



Nancy F. Atlas
United States District Judge